

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending in the application. Claims 1-31 stand rejected.

Claims 1 – 31 are herein cancelled without prejudice. New claims 32 – 47 are added.

The applicant respectfully requests consideration of the following remarks and allowance of the claims.

Informalities

The applicant notes that the informality objected to in claim 1 in the office action is obviated in view of the cancellation of the original claims

35 U.S.C. 103(e) Rejections

Claims 1 – 31 are cancelled without prejudice and new claims 32 – 47 are added. The applicant asserts that new claims 32 – 47 are patentable over the art of record and respectfully requests their allowance.

The applicant notes that the office action cites various combinations of 11 prior art references in rejecting the original claims. Obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so. The teaching, suggestion, or motivation must be found either explicitly or implicitly in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. The level of skill in the art cannot be relied upon to provide the suggestion to combine references. (MPEP 2143.01). The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination must be found in the prior art and can not be based on the applicant's disclosure. (MPEP 706.02(j)).

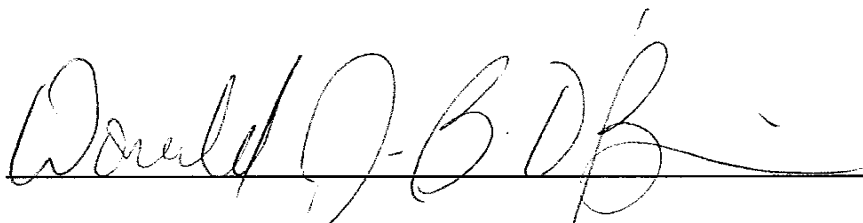
The applicant respectfully requests that if the examiner is to cite such a large number of references, that the office action provide the motivation for combining the references with more particularity.

CONCLUSION

The claims in their present form are allowable over the art of record. Applicant therefore solicits their allowance.

The Applicant believes no additional fees are due with respect to this filing. However, should the Office determine additional fees are necessary, the Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 210765.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald J. Budig-O'Brien", is written over a horizontal line.

SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

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